

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q91749

Junichiro ANZAI, et al

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/008899

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: December 19, 2005

Examiner: Unknown

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SURFACE PROCESSING SUCH AS PLASMA
PROCESSING

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

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Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/008899
Attorney Docket No. Q91749

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP2004/008899 dated October 12, 2004), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: English language abstracts, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for Japanese Patent Application Publication Nos. 5-226258 and 2002-143795, which are cited on page 2 of the specification.

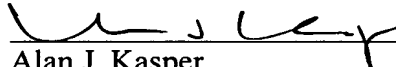
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/008899
Attorney Docket No. Q91749

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860


Alan J. Kasper
Registration No. 25,426

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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Date: December 19, 2005

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 MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)
 Complete if Known

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	National Stage of PCT/JP2004/008899
				Confirmation Number	Unknown
				Filing Date	December 19, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Junichiro ANZAI
				Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	Q91749

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,132,512	A	10/17/2000	KUNIAKI HORIE, ET AL
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2002-155371	A	05/31/2002	SEKISUI CHEM. CO. LTD., and CHEMITORONICS CO. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	10-226886	A	08/25/1998	EBARA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	2002-94221	A	03/29/2002	SEKISUI CHEM. CO. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2003-92292	A	03/28/2003	SUMITOMO PRECISION PROD. CO. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2000-109979	A	04/18/2000	OKUI TOKUJIRO	Abstract
		JP	2001-274101	A	10/05/2001	MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2003-188104	A	07/04/2003	FUJI XEROX CO. LTD.	Abstract
		JP	8-222548	A	08/30/1996	HITACHI LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2003-249492	A	09/05/2003	KONICA CORP.	Abstract
		JP	5-226258	A	09/03/1993	APPLIED MATERIALS JAPAN K.K.	Abstract
		JP	2002-143795	A	05/21/2002	SEKISUI CHEM. CO. LTD., and CHEMITORONICS CO. LTD.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.